GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3526
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2008
FREE EDUCATION TO DALITS
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has sent its recommendations to the Committee of Ministers on Dalit Affairs for providing free education to Dalits up to Ph.D;

(b) if so,whether the Committee of Ministers on Dalit Affairs has recently discussed the above recommendation;

(c) if so,the details thereof; and

(d) the manner in which free education would help in improving the percentage of higher education among the SC/ST which is far below the national average?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a)to(c): The Sub-Group o n "Education a nd Skill Development" of the "Committee of Ministers on Dalit Affairs"(CMDA) had recommended,inter alia,that no fee should be charged from Scheduled Caste (SC) students in Government or Government aided institutions at any level right upto Ph.D.The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, the nodal Ministry in respect of the matters pertaining to the Committee of Ministers on Dalit Affairs (CMDA) has informed that CMDA has submitted its first report.

(d) The Sub-Group's recommendation will contribute significantly in increasing the access of Scheduled Castes to education.